

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A battery-operated lighting device for use with any one of a plurality of rechargeable battery packs, each battery pack having a pair of terminals and producing a respective, different battery voltage, said battery-operated lighting device comprising:

a casing having first and second casing parts,

a lighting unit including a light bulb located ~~at~~ in said first casing part, said light bulb having a fixed operating voltage,

a battery chamber having an internal part located ~~at~~ within said second casing part ~~for~~ and receiving ~~at least part~~ a first portion of ~~and locating~~ any of the battery packs and an external part including an end forming part having an opening extending into the internal part of said battery chamber, the end forming part engaging a second portion of a battery pack having the first portion inserted into the internal part of said battery chamber, with the second portion of the battery pack protruding from the end forming part of said battery chamber and from said casing as a weighted base for said battery-operated lighting device,

a pair of electrical contacts located in the internal part of said battery chamber for making electrical connection with respective terminals of whichever of the battery packs is located in said battery chamber, and

an electronic voltage regulating circuit within said casing and having an input and an output electrically connected to said electrical contacts and to said light bulb, respectively, said voltage regulating circuit regulating whatever battery voltage is supplied by whichever of the battery packs is located in said battery chamber and connected to said input of said voltage regulating circuit to substantially the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb at said output of said voltage regulating circuit, for operating said light bulb.

2. (Currently Amended) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the external part of said battery chamber has ~~an opening through which a part of any of the battery packs is insertable into said battery chamber, said opening~~ a rim having a periphery with a shape and size substantially the same as the ~~part~~ second portion of any of the battery packs, for locating any of the battery packs in said battery chamber.

3. (Currently Amended) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said second casing part has an outer surface ~~forming said battery chamber and~~ lying substantially flush with the second portion of any of the battery packs ~~when~~ located in said battery chamber.

Claim 4 (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein said casing has ~~an upper end~~ a third casing part, intermediate the first and second casing parts, that supports said lighting unit and a middle section including includes a handgrip.

Claims 6-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A battery-operated lighting device for use with any one of a plurality of rechargeable battery packs, each battery pack having a pair of terminals and producing a respective, different battery voltage, said battery-operated lighting device comprising:

- a casing having first and second casing parts,
- a lighting unit including a light bulb located at said first casing part, said light bulb having a fixed operating voltage,

- a battery chamber located at said second casing part for receiving at least part of and locating any of the battery packs, wherein the operating voltages of the battery packs are substantially 9.6V, 12.0V, 13.2V, 14.4V, 15.6V, 16.8V, and 18.0V,

- a pair of electrical contacts located in said battery chamber for making electrical connection with respective terminals of whichever of the battery packs is located in said battery chamber, and

- an electronic voltage regulating circuit within said casing and having an input and an output electrically connected to said electrical contacts and to said light bulb, respectively, said voltage regulating circuit regulating whatever battery voltage is supplied by whichever of the battery packs is in said battery chamber and connected to said input of said voltage regulating circuit to substantially the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb at said output of said voltage regulating circuit, for operating said light bulb, wherein said voltage regulating circuit includes

- an integrated circuit chip producing a substantially constant output voltage that is the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb, irrespective of an input voltage supplied by whichever of the battery packs is in said battery chamber, and

- a feedback loop connected from said output to said integrated circuit chip for indicating output voltage of said voltage regulating circuit.

10. (Currently Amended) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb is substantially ~~9.3V~~ 9.3V DC volts.

11. (Previously Presented) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein said casing has a lower end forming part of said battery chamber, said battery chamber having a bottom opening through which a part of any of the battery packs is insertable into said battery chamber, a battery pack in and protruding from said battery chamber acting as a weighted base for said battery-operated lighting device.

12. (Previously Presented) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 11, wherein said casing has an upper end that supports said lighting unit and a middle section including a handgrip.

13. (Previously Presented) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb is substantially 9.3V DC.

14. (New) A battery-operated lighting device for use with any one of a plurality of rechargeable battery packs, each battery pack having a pair of terminals and producing a respective, different battery voltage, said battery-operated lighting device comprising:

- a casing having first and second casing parts,
- a lighting unit including a light bulb located at said first casing part, said light bulb having a fixed operating voltage,
- a battery chamber located at said second casing part for receiving at least part of and locating any of the battery packs,
- a pair of electrical contacts located in said battery chamber for making electrical connection with respective terminals of whichever of the battery packs is located in said battery chamber, and
- an electronic voltage regulating circuit within said casing and having an input and an output electrically connected to said electrical contacts and to said light bulb, respectively, said voltage regulating circuit regulating input voltages connected to said input of said voltage regulating circuit, in a range from 9.6 volts to 18 volts, to substantially the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb at said output of said voltage regulating circuit, for operating said light bulb.

In re Appln. of Yan Keung Stanley TANG
Application No. 09/988,247

15. (New) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb is less than 9.6 volts.

16. (New) The battery-operated lighting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein the fixed operating voltage of said light bulb is substantially 9.3 volts.